



## **Office of Mayor Jerry Sanders**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **SANDERS APPOINTS WASHINGTON, D.C. VETERAN AS PUBLIC SAFETY DEPUTY CHIEF**

*Jill Olen will Serve as Head of Homeland Security &  
Coordinate Public Safety Budgets, Strategy*

San Diego – Mayor Jerry Sanders today appointed homeland security expert Jill Olen as the City’s new Deputy Chief Operating Officer for Public Safety. Prior to moving to San Diego in late 2004, Olen served in several senior level emergency services planning posts as a civilian at the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. Ms. Olen will serve as the head of the City’s Homeland Security Department and coordinate issues of strategy and budget for the City’s Police, Fire and Homeland Security departments. While the Police and Fire Chiefs will continue reporting directly to the Mayor and Chief Operating Officer, Ms. Olen will introduce an unprecedented level of coordination among all of the City’s emergency services departments. Sanders is planning to put Olen’s Washington, D.C. knowledge to work to get the City back on the Department of Homeland Security’s primary funding list for 2007.

An attorney, Ms. Olen is presently an adjunct professor at National University’s Homeland Security and Safety Engineering program. Previously, Olen enjoyed a very successful career as a senior level civilian advisor to the U.S. Military. During her career there, Olen was involved in a varied array of operational safety and security matters including the terrorist attacks

of September 11, 2001; the anthrax postal attacks; multiple natural disasters (fires and hurricanes); and special events such as the 2002 Winter Olympics. Her career also involved planning, operations and policy posts.

In her new post, Ms. Olen will be asked to focus on the City's emergency preparedness. A proven consensus builder and facilitator, Olen will develop an overall strategy for the emergency services departments to include budgetary priorities, inter-operability issues and a Federal and State grants strategy. "Jill will be my partner in pursuing the appropriate funding that San Diego needs to be well prepared in case of emergency," said Mayor Sanders. "Because of our size, San Diego has a responsibility not only to its own citizens but to our neighbors in the region to be well prepared in the unfortunate case of an emergency."

Olen is a graduate of the University of Maryland with a Bachelors in Business Management (1981); Troy State University with a Masters in Business and Management (1982); and the George Mason University School of Law with a Juris Doctorate (1989). Ms. Olen lives in Coronado with her husband.

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